

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPUTER CRIME ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1999

**HON. MATT SALMON**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Computer Crime Enforcement Act of 1999. The bill provides \$25 million in grants (from the Department of Justice) to local law enforcement officials to combat computer crime. Specifically, the grants will be used to: Teach State and city law enforcement agents how to investigate hi-tech crimes; purchase the necessary equipment to assist in the investigation of computer crime; and train prosecutors to conduct investigations and forensic analysis of evidence in prosecutions of computer crime.

As you know, many businesses, educational institutions, banks, hospitals, and other information-intensive entities have fallen prey to hi-tech criminals who illegally break into computer systems and steal sensitive information. And too often, local law enforcement agents have not had the necessary equipment or training to protect the public from hi-tech thieves.

Computer Crime is on the rise. And companies are requiring more Federal assistance. According to a recent report released by the FBI and the Computer Security Institute, 32 percent of companies surveyed required help from law enforcement agencies—up 17 percent from the prior year. And, according to a recent report by San Francisco's Computer Security Institute, nearly a third of U.S. companies, financial institutions, government agencies, and universities say their computer systems were penetrated by outsiders last year. More than half of the organizations said their computer systems were subject to unauthorized access by insiders, and 57 percent said the Internet was a "frequent point of" by hackers, up 37.5 percent from 3 years ago.

We can no longer afford to be mystified by those who commit these hi-tech crimes. The small network that once was the electronic home to a few scientists has become an electronic labyrinth where hundreds of millions of people regularly pay taxes, trade stock bank, buy goods, and send intensely personal information. When criminal gain access to this sensitive information, the consequences can be devastating.

Computer criminals know no boundaries. And they are becoming sophisticated to the point that most companies aren't even aware that they are under attack. therefore, it is imperative that Congress address the needs of local police officers who are fighting this new wave of crime on the front lines. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor my bill.

## IN HONOR OF WINNIE LEE BROWN MARTIN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of Mrs. Winnie Lee Brown Martin of Garfield Heights, Ohio for her years of devotion and service to her community.

Mrs. Martin devoted her time selflessly and wholeheartedly, balancing between the community, a family, and her job. She was a diligent worker and worked at the Joseph Feiss and Company's clothing factor for more than twenty-eight years, but never let it subtract from her life at home. Her sense of family values lead to a warm, loving home for her two sons, Elroy Martin, Jr. and Laddree Lee Martin, and to her late husband, Elroy Martin, Sr. who sadly passed away eleven years ago.

She skillfully represented her community and was a dynamic local political leader. The list of her achievements is seemingly endless. She served as president of the Garfield Heights Women's Civic Club, precinct committeewoman, and was on the executive board of the Garfield Heights Democratic Club. The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections further deputized her to assist them in the voting process. She also contributed so much to the community life, serving on the Council of Ministries of Schaffer United Methodist Church and later, as an active member of St. Paul United Methodist Church. She even organized the community's popular High Steppers drill team. These activities did not go unrecognized: in 1983 she was awarded the Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation Award for outstanding community service and in 1985 she was awarded the Henry S. Trubiano Award for service in the Democratic Club.

Mrs. Martin's legacy lives on in her sons, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Her dedication and her warm personality will be remembered with affection for many years to come. My dear colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of this remarkable woman. She will be greatly missed.

## TRIBUTE TO THE WELLNESS COMMUNITY, SOUTH BAY CITIES

**HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special organization in my district, the Wellness Community, South Bay Cities. For the last 12 years, this group has provided much needed emotional support and educational resources for South Bay cancer patients.

The mission of Wellness Community, South Bay Cities is to help people with cancer fight

for their recovery by providing psychological and emotional support services at no cost whatsoever to people with cancer and their loved ones.

They are the ones who provide the support so vital to one's recovery. The Wellness Center, South Bay Cities' programs are designed to address the loss of control, hopelessness and social isolation that cancer patients and their families often experience. Each year, they help thousands of patients and families who are battling this illness, providing assistance during the difficult times.

I commend the staff and volunteers for providing such outstanding care. The South Bay is grateful for your services.

## A TRIBUTE TO DR. PHRA E. KERCHEVAL

**HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Phra E. Kercheval, an outstanding citizen of the United States and a lifelong resident of the State of West Virginia, who celebrated his 101st birthday on May 21, 1999.

Dr. Kercheval was born on May 21, 1898 in Horton, Randolph County, WV, to George H. and Ella Kercheval. He graduated from Tunnelton High School-Preston County in 1914, from Potomac State College with a Pre-Dental degree in 1916, and from Baltimore College of Dental Surgery-University of Maryland in 1921. He was a member of Sigma Nu, Theta Nu Epsilon, and Psi-Omega Alpha Chapter.

Dr. Kercheval is a veteran of World War I, being a member of the U.S. Army Medical Corps, serial number 512556, and received an Honorable Discharge in 1918. Dr. Kercheval established his dental practice in Tunnelton and Kingwood, WV in 1921 and practiced for 52 years, until 1973. He founded and established the Kercheval Memorial Clinic with the cooperation of Dr. John Lehman in July, 1939. He was instrumental in establishing the current Preston Memorial Hospital in Kingwood, WV in 1952.

Dr. Kercheval is a member of the American Legion and has held the position of Post Commander on five occasions, is Past Commander of the State of West Virginia 1944-1945, was on the National Executive Committee 1947-1958, served on the National Rehabilitation Committee, and was one of the organizers of the Mountaineer Boy's State. He met with Senate and House leaders in regard to veterans' benefits during his activity with the National Rehabilitation Committee.

Dr. Kercheval is also a member of the American Dental Association, the West Virginia Dental Association, and the Monongahela Dental Association, the IOOF, and is a 32nd degree Mason and Shriner.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Dr. Kercheval resides with his wife of 59 years in Kingwood, WV and enjoys visits with his daughter, Barbara Kercheval, his son Phra E. Kercheval, Jr., as well as from his three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a privilege to pay tribute to such an outstanding citizen as Dr. Phra E. Kercheval, who has been an inspiration to so many other Americans, and I am happy to have the opportunity to wish him many more happy years of fruitful life in his beloved state of West Virginia.

THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO CELEBRATES THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, it is my personal honor and privilege to rise today and pay tribute to my State's Capitol, my Congressional district which I have served for the past 20 years, and my home; the City of Sacramento on their 150th anniversary.

In January of 1848, James Marshal reached into the American River near Sacramento and retrieved a small nugget of gold. This discovery gave birth to California's gold rush and provided a prosperous foundation for Sacramento to thrive.

At the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers, the City of Sacramento grew quickly, cradled by the fertile land of the Central Valley. On August 1, 1849, Sacramento's City Council convened for the first time and began drafting the City Charter. On March 18, 1850, the City of Sacramento became the first incorporated city in the State of California.

Since that time, Sacramento has developed a national and international reputation for progress and innovation. From its early days as the terminus for the Pony Express and the Transcontinental Railroad, to its current seat of government for the nation's most populous state, Sacramento has embraced its destiny in defining the ever-changing face of California.

Today, instead of Sacramento's riches coming from the surrounding hills of gold, our riches come from the great wealth of people, culture and diversity. As the 7th largest city in California, and the 38th largest city in the Nation, we owe our prosperity to the men and women who have sacrificed and dedicated their lives to the social and economic strength of our City.

Spanish explorer Gabriel Moraga bestowed upon our City the name Sacramento, meaning holy covenant with God. As the City of Sacramento begins its 150th anniversary, I encourage the people of Sacramento to make a personal covenant with each other, to honor our history, respect our diversity, and challenge us all to ensure a prosperous future.

This evening, the City of Sacramento will begin a yearlong celebration of its 150th anniversary at a special City Council meeting at City Hall. As a former member of the City Council, I would like to personally congratulate the Mayor and the City Council for achieving such an honorable milestone.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the City of Sacramento on their 150th anniversary. Sacramento's golden

history is reflected often throughout the City and is a constant reminder of the wealth of opportunity, which continues to grace the people of Sacramento.

IN HONOR OF THE VERY REVEREND FATHER MIKHAIL EDWARD MIKHAIL, D. MIN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Very Reverend Father Mikhail E. Mikhail, D. Min who celebrates the Silver Jubilee of the Priestly Ordination for 25 years of service at the Saint Mark Coptic Orthodox Church of Cleveland.

The Very Rev. Fr. Mikhail E. Mikhail began his service to God at a young age as a student of several Coptic Orthodox Church leaders in Cairo, Egypt. He excelled in his studies and was fortunate to enter the Coptic Orthodox Theological Seminary in Caro which he came under the patronage of his most influential mentor, H. H. Pope Shenouda III, who was the H.G. Shenouda, Bishop of the Christian Education and Dean of the Seminary.

In 1972, the Very Rev. Fr. Mikhail, then Deacon Mounier, graduated from the Seminary and was assigned to serve at St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church in Masarra Shoubra in Cairo. Shortly after, he became the first consecrated deacon to serve in the United States at the St. Mary & St. Antonius in Queens, New York. Only a year later, in 1974, he was called back to Cairo and on May 11, 1974 Deacon Mounir married Seham Samuel. On August 23, 1974 Deacon Mounier was ordained the Priest Mikhail Edward Mikhail by H. H. Pope Shenouda III at St. Marks Cathedral.

In 1975, Fr. Mikhail and his wife arrived in Cleveland to begin his new ministry as the first resident pastor of the St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church. Here he served a community which was about fifty families large as well as other Coptic communities in Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati in Ohio; and Pittsburgh Pennsylvania and Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota.

Fr. Mikhail took the lead in the building of a new church in Cleveland in the traditional Coptic style which officially opened in 1988. The Very Rev. Fr. Mikhail has dedicated his life in the past 25 years to the spiritual growth and enhancement of the Coptic community in Cleveland. As a result of his guidance there has been a revived interest in true Coptic Orthodox religious practices that have brought people closer to God. As a father, a teacher, and friend, the Very Rev. Fr. Mikhail has been a blessing to the Coptic community both in Cleveland and abroad.

My Fellow colleagues, join me in honoring the Very Rev. Fr. Mikhail, a man who has dedicated his life to God, freedom and the well-being of all people.

HONORING STEPHEN JOSEPH MASTO, SANTA BARBARA CITY FIREFIGHTER

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the service and pay tribute to Santa Barbara City Firefighter, Stephen Joseph Masto who died in late August while helping battle a wildlife in Los Padres National Forest.

At the young age of 28, Stephen had already devoted his career to public safety. Before serving in the Santa Barbara City Fire Department, he served as an apprentice firefighter in the Brea fire Department in Orange County, as a reserve officer at fire departments in Upland in San Bernardino County, and Los Alamitos in Los Angeles County, and as a volunteer disaster worker in Long Beach, CA. Clearly, Stephen was committed to serving the common good.

In remembering Stephen, we can never repay him for his dedication, hard work, or ultimate sacrifice. Rather, we must honor him by being especially mindful of the brave men and women firefighters he left behind to carry on the selfless work of protecting the lives and safety of their neighbors in times of need. Like Stephen, these are true heroes in every sense of the word.

I know that I speak for the entire community when I extend my most heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones who will miss Stephen terribly. We only hope that their warm memories of this heroic man will sustain them in this moment of grief.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2684, DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. DEBBIE STABENOW**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to oppose the rule for H.R. 2684, a bill making appropriations for the VA-HUD and Independent Agencies for Fiscal Year 2000, which does not allow a vote on the Edwards/Stabenow/Evans amendment.

Mr. Speaker, this amendment would have added \$730 million to Veterans Health Care. The VA estimates that the adoption of our amendment would have allowed an additional 140,000 veterans to receive the health care they need. Instead, this budget continues the under funding of critical medical care for those who have served our country in the armed services.

Today, there are 20,000 fewer VA medical staff than there were just 5 years ago. What does this mean for our veterans? Due to these staffing shortages, a veteran in Tennessee with multiple sclerosis was forced to wait 4 months to be seen by a doctor. Others have been forced to travel over 300 miles just to receive x-rays. And there are more examples of

the problems facing the Veterans Health Care System. In my own state of Michigan, a disabled Korean veteran experiencing fainting spells and no appetite was not able to receive treatment at either a VA inpatient or outpatient facility. In less than a week this man collapsed and was pronounced dead of septic shock and pneumonia. These were qualified facilities that did not have the staff to help this man.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with you a letter that I received in my office that I feel accurately explains the situation our veterans are facing today. Julianna Smith, the wife of Vietnam veteran John Smith of Milan, MI, told me she continued to have problems getting adequate medical care for her husband who is disabled and requires 24 hour care. She was very upset about the effects that further cuts to the VA medical system would have on her and her husband. She wrote,

My husband fought a war overseas, and was then shunned and spit upon by fellow Americans once he returned stateside. He paid his taxes to the government just like everyone else, and he gave part of his life to that same government that now wants nothing to do with him.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans deserve better. They kept their promises to us. It's time for our country to keep our promises to them. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this rule, and provide the health care our nation's heroes deserve.

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES C. LESTER

### HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James C. Lester, a pioneer in the health care industry in my district. For the last 32 years, Jim Lester has dedicated himself to providing quality care to the residents of the South Bay. For 27 of those years Jim has been closely associated with the Little Company of Mary Hospital organization.

Jim joined the Little Company of Mary Hospital in 1967. Now, as Jim Lester retires as president and CEO of the Little Company of Mary Health Services, he leaves a first class integrated health care delivery system. What was once a stand-alone facility is now three hospitals, three skilled nursing facilities, three diagnostic centers, four walk-in urgent care centers, a large regional home care service, a chemical dependency recovery center, multiple physician sites, a mobile pediatric care van and three fundraising foundations. It was Jim who had the vision and initiative to make the Little Company of Mary Health Services the organization that it is today.

Because of Jim Lester, the Little Company of Mary Health Services is poised to enter the 21st century as a leading member of the health care industry. I commend Jim Lester for his loyalty and dedication to providing such outstanding health care to the residents of the greater South Bay. We are grateful for his contributions to the community.

IN HONOR OF MARGARET W. WONG

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional woman, Ms. Margaret W. Wong. Today, Ms. Margaret W. Wong is the recipient of the Belle Sherwin Democracy in Action Award.

The Belle Sherwin Democracy in Action Award is awarded annually by the league of Women Voters of Cleveland, Ohio. Ms. Margaret W. Wong reflects and upholds the goals of the league through her dedication to serving others and furthering the quality of our Cleveland community. She is a civic leader and committed to helping immigrants and those in need through her work in immigration and naturalization law.

Ms. Margaret W. Wong is an admirable member of our community. I ask you to join me in acknowledging her accomplishments and honoring her for receiving the Belle Sherwin Democracy in Action Award.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN FOLLIT

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the Second Congressional District of Massachusetts' outstanding and dedicated citizens, Mr. John Follit. John is being honored today by his fellow citizens at the Italian American Veterans Post No. 64 of East Longmeadow, MA. It is an honor for me to join in this recognition of someone who has contributed a great deal to our community.

John Follit has served the East Longmeadow community through his work with the Office of Children and his advocacy for children in the State. He has been active in politics by serving as chairman of East Longmeadow's Democratic Town Committee, and he has helped many political candidates by planning campaign strategies in local, state, and national campaigns. John has also been a union steward and has been a champion of democratic principles in whatever he does.

Beyond his work in the community, John has put so much energy into his family life. He is a loving husband to his wife, Laurie, and a great father to his three children. John and his family have demonstrated their generosity in many ways, including bringing a foster child into their care. John Follit is a leading citizen and is dedicated in everything he does.

My best wishes go out to John Follit and his family as, together, they now face the many related challenges to his health. My thoughts and prayers are with them all. John Follit has done so much for so many that it is a privilege to honor and pay tribute to him on this special day.

A TRIBUTE TO TERRENCE STARR

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, Mr. Terrence Starr, on the occasion of his retirement as Chief Probation Officer with the Contra Costa County Probation Department.

Mr. Starr began his probation career in San Diego County where he worked for 29 years in various capacities, including superintendent of juvenile hall and superintendent of various camp facilities. He served as Chief Probation Officer of Shasta County from 1990 to 1995, and assumed the position of Chief Probation Officer of Contra Costa County in November of 1995.

Terry Starr's tenure in Contra Costa County has been brief, but incredibly effective. Over the past four years he has successfully led the effort to secure funding for a badly needed new juvenile hall facility which is expected to be completed in 2003. He expanded the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility, the local county-run boys' camp, by 26 beds, and was instrumental in opening the Summit Center.

The 25 bed Summit Center, which is an innovative example of successful interagency coordination and cooperation, is staffed and run by the country's probation, mental health and education departments, and offers treatment and assistance to young male offenders who are struggling with serious emotional difficulties. Mr. Starr has most recently developed a 20 bed specialized treatment facility and program for girls, which is comparable to the Summit Center for boys. The Chris Adams Girls' Center is slated to open in December 1999. Mr. Starr has been instrumental in securing numerous grants from both the state and federal government to place probation officers in high schools through out Contra Costa County and to provide much needed treatment services for girls.

The leadership abilities Mr. Starr possesses are extraordinary. They have been demonstrated by his successful term as President of the California Probation, Parole, and Correctional Association and his appointment by Governor Pete Wilson to serve for several years on the Board of Corrections, representing the Chief Probation Officers of California.

Terry Starr is a hardworking, highly principled individual who is a committed and effective advocate for children. Indeed, he has devoted his life to helping those most in need and has made an immeasurable difference in the lives of so many children and their families. He is well-liked and respected by his staff, friends, and colleagues and will be sorely missed by all.

It is with great pleasure, albeit with a measure of regret, that I congratulate Terry Starr upon his retirement. I wish him a long, happy, and healthy retirement enjoying the animals and outdoors he so loves.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 2684, DEPARTMENTS OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUS-  
ING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,  
AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Rule for the VA-HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations bill. This bill makes significant cuts in critical housing initiatives and will have a devastating effect on basic scientific research in this country.

This legislation is a string of broken promises—promises to provide for those who need a place to live, promises to invest in research and development, and promises to provide quality health care for our veterans. The bill reported by the Appropriations Committee cuts funding for housing programs, cuts funding for basic research and NASA, and does not provide adequate funding for Veterans' health care.

Last year, Congress authorized 100,000 new Section 8 rental vouchers to help families with worst-case housing needs, people who pay more than half their income in rent every month. This bill provides no new funding for this voucher program, denying 100,000 Americans affordable housing opportunities.

The bill cuts \$250 million in funding from the Community Development Block Grant program. Cities and towns across America will be unable to use these funds to create new jobs, invest in new housing opportunities, and revitalize neighborhoods. In addition, the Committee cut \$20 million from the HOME investment partnership program, \$10 million of which is targeted at providing counseling services to first-time homebuyers.

The Committee also cuts funding for the most vulnerable Americans—the homeless. It is estimated that more than 600,000 people are living in shelters and on the streets of this country. Many are families, children, veterans, and victims of domestic violence. Despite the overwhelming need for more shelter beds and supportive services for the homeless, this bill cuts additional funding from the Homeless Assistance grant program.

Mr. Speaker, taking care of Veterans who bravely served our country should be one of Congress's top priorities. After reviewing this legislation, it is quite clear that Republicans do not believe this to be true. While this bill provides an addition \$1.7 billion for Veterans Medical Health Care, it falls far short of the \$3 billion increase necessary to ensure our nation's veterans with adequate healthcare. Without this additional funding, Veteran Health Care centers across the country will be forced to make even greater cuts in existing programs and will be prohibited from implementing additional programs.

NASA and NSF have also taken a huge hit in this bill. By cutting \$1 billion from the NASA program and \$275 million from NSF, the science community has been dealt a serious blow. It is tragic that a country which prides itself on being number one in space exploration and the technological advances will suffer the devastating effects of these short-sight-

ed cuts for years, and possibly decades to come.

The \$1 billion decrease to the NASA budget is the largest cut since the end of the Apollo program! Several programs have been severely reduced or zeroed out, which virtually guarantees their termination. This bill cancels funding for the Space Infrared Telescope Facility, and decreases funding for the Explorer program, Discovery program, and Mars missions support funding for research and technology for space science. At the same time, there are \$122 million in non-requested earmarks within the bill. Existence of these earmarks worsens the impact of reductions to higher priority programs.

By limiting funds, NASA will be forced to make drastic administrative cuts in ten of its centers and will be forced to close at least two centers. No doubt this will translate into several employees being laid off. By decreasing NASA funds, we will ensure the delay in development of the Crew Return Vehicle (CRV) which will subsequently setback the timetable when crew can board the ISS.

Mr. Speaker, to make a long story short, this is a bad bill. It's bad for science; it's bad for Veterans; it's bad for working class families; it's bad for middle class families; and it's bad for seniors. I strongly urge my colleagues to defeat the rule and oppose this bill in its current form.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2488,  
TAXPAYER REFUND AND RELIEF  
ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM KOLBE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with pride to support the conference report on H.R. 2488, which provides a sizable tax cut for the American taxpayers. I am proud to give taxpayers back their money the federal government doesn't need. That's right; the federal government doesn't need it. Surplus means the amount in excess of what we spend. And the federal government has and will have all it needs plus enough to reform Social Security and Medicare and start paying down the debt, and still leave a small amount to return to the folks who are sending their hard-earned dollars to Washington, DC.

Within hours of the announcement of the conference agreement, my office began receiving letters from groups opposing this tax cut. And what are they saying? Don't give the money back; spend more money on my program.

The Minority Leader suggests that the amount we're giving back is too much; that we have to save the surplus so we have money available for entitlement reform.

Didn't he hear that we're using \$3 to save Social Security and Medicare, to fund programs and to pay down the debt, for each \$1 we are giving back to the taxpayers?

President Clinton says he'll talk about giving a tax cut after we provide for Medicare, debt reduction and federal spending.

Didn't he hear? This bill gives \$3 of the surplus to Social Security, Medicare, government programs, and debt reduction for every \$1 of

the surplus that it leaves with the taxpayer. Makes one worry about what he has in mind for federal spending. Is he thinking about more and bigger government programs?

Mr. Speaker, American taxpayers have been paying and paying and paying. The typical American family pays more in taxes than on food, clothing and shelter combined. Our tax burden from all government is the highest since we were financing a world war in the 40s. In fact, without this tax relief bill, the average American household will pay \$5,307 more in taxes over the next 10 years than the government needs to operate.

We have a good economy; unemployment is at record lows. We don't need more government. We do need to scrutinize programs and divert dollars from ineffective and wasteful programs to areas that need additional funding. But we don't need to increase the size of government.

Individuals have the right to choose how to spend their money. They can choose to tutor their kids, or replace a furnace or air conditioner, or help an elderly parent, or support a favorite charity, or even save it for their own retirement. They shouldn't have it taken from their paycheck before they even see it so that government can use it to fund yet another program.

One administration official called these taxpayers selfish.

I call the groups who want to spend more of the taxpayers' money selfish.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill. Let's return a small share of the surplus to the taxpayers. It belongs to them.

THE NATIONWIDE GUN BUYBACK  
ACT OF 1999

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Nationwide Gun Buyback Act of 1999 (NGBA), providing federal funds to local jurisdictions to engage in gun buyback programs like the successful program conducted by the District of Columbia last month. Under the bill, funds would be distributed through the Justice Department after evaluation of proposals, and added weight would be given to jurisdictions with the greatest incidence of gun violence. The NGBA would require that a jurisdiction certify that it is capable of destroying the guns within 30 days, that it can conduct the program safely, and that an amnesty appropriate for the jurisdiction will be offered. Not only individuals, but groups such as gangs could take advantage of the buyback provisions to encourage street gangs to disarm themselves.

This bill is necessary because, despite the extraordinary demonstrated success of the gun buyback program in the District, local jurisdictions have no readily available funds for similar programs. The District was forced to find money on an ad hoc basis and ran out of funds despite many residents who still desired to turn in guns. Initially, the District conducted a pilot program using funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Confronted with long lines of residents, the Police Department then took the program city-wide, using drug asset forfeiture funds. Even

so, after using \$290,000, the city ran out of funds, but not of guns that could have been collected. The guns were a "good buy" but hard-pressed jurisdictions, especially big cities, should not have to rob Peter to pay Paul when it comes to public safety. The federal government can play a unique and noncontroversial role in reducing gun violence by providing the small amount authorized by my bill, \$50 million, to encourage buybacks efforts where they can be helpful.

The District's gun buyback leadership needs to be taken nationwide because the nation's capital has successfully demonstrated a faster and easier way to get guns where criminals cannot use them and children and adults cannot misuse them. Gun buyback efforts are not new, but the recent, dramatic impact of the District's program has special bi-partisan and natural appeal today because the program is voluntary and requires no change in local laws. My bill has the added feature of skirting the present stalemate in the Congress, where we have yet to pass a gun safety bill. A gun buyback bill is certainly no substitute for gun safety legislation, but my bill is based on demonstrated and successful experience in a number of cities that have achieved voluntary compliance by citizens with local laws.

Families, and especially mothers, have feared guns in their homes, but have not known how to get rid of them. In most jurisdictions, a grandmother petrified that there is a gun in the house cannot turn it in without subjecting herself or her grandson to prosecution. This dangerous unintended result of gun safety legislation is reason enough for gun buyback efforts.

Like tax amnesty, gun amnesty temporarily puts a premium on the ultimate goal. When the goal is taxes, the government puts a premium on getting the amount owed. When the goal is guns, the premium is on getting deadly weapons off the streets and out of people's homes.

The Columbine teen massacre, the Jewish Community Center shootings, and the Chicago area ethnic killings have come together with the urban gun violence that has plagued cities for years. The result is an American consensus for multiple approaches to fight the gun culture. The extraordinary success of the buyback programs in the District and around the country has shown that these programs should now be made readily available to jurisdictions that desire to use them.

In a market economy, efforts to buy back trouble have special appeal. We may disagree on the various approach as to gun violence, but Democrats and Republicans alike can agree to this sensible approach.

I urge my colleagues to support this vital legislation.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR STANLEY J. TRUPO

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Stanley J. Trupo of Berea, Ohio, who recently announced his retirement after 12 years of dedicated public service.

Mayor Trupo inherited a city without a strategic vision—and an office without furniture.

Elected in 1987, the new mayor entered his office in city hall to find it empty, save a broken desk chair. Stan immediately went about restoring order to Berea's house. The Mayor's first step was to develop the city economically. The Mayor's efforts translated into Berea's being the site of the Cleveland Browns' headquarters. Under Stan's leadership, Berea became not only a city in which to live, but a city in which to work. His promotion of the city's industrial corridor has brought over 4,000 jobs to Berea.

While the city's business sector has expanded, Berea has remained a community of families. Berea is a city that takes care of its children. Berea public schools form one of the most respected systems in my state. Mayor Trupo's youth diversion program provides guidance to at-risk kids. Trupo projects like the Berea Recreation Center well represent the city's rich community life. The Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds host the county's huge annual fair. Berea Summer Theater entertains crowds at Baldwin Wallace College. With the return of the Browns, parents and children will once again line practice fields, watching their gridiron heroes preparing for the coming season. It is Mayor Trupo's success in moderating Berea's economic development as a city on the move and his hard work to maintain long-standing community traditions that has led to Berea's being named as a White House Millennium City.

Mayor Trupo's work does not end at Berea's borderline. Stan has also served as a trustee on the board of Regional Transit Authority. Stan's time on the board has been marked by an expansion period during which Cleveland-area residents have enjoyed a better level of service than ever before. A White House appointment added a seat on board of the Federal Home and Loan Bank of Cincinnati to Mayor Trupo's long list of responsibilities. The tireless Mayor Trupo served in each capacity with characteristic resolve.

I wish to thank Mayor Trupo for his outstanding service and ask my fellow colleagues to join me in wishing Mayor Trupo all the best as he moves on to new endeavors.

#### DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREAT- MENT TO PRODUCTS OF PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 27, 1999*

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, today I voted to extend Normal Trading Relations to the People's Republic of China for another year. I cast this vote reluctantly after much consideration.

Our Nation's relationship with China is one of the most critical issues facing us in the post-cold-war era. This relationship impacts three critical areas: Human rights for the Chinese people; our national security interests in the Asian-Pacific region; and the jobs of working Americans.

As a nation, we have continued to reaffirm a policy of engagement with China in the hope that continued economic ties will span the political and cultural differences that divide us. In

pursuing this policy, we have seen some progress in areas of freedom of speech and worship, but clearly not enough. China has also played a role in trying to diffuse tensions between the United States and North Korea. However, lately it appears our investment in this policy is yielding ever diminishing returns.

China continues to violate numerous bilateral trade agreements, imprisons citizens for their political views and religious affiliations, uses prison labor in manufacturing and performs forced abortions. A startling new development is China's espionage effort to steal our nuclear weapons secrets, its aggressive posture toward Taiwan, and its transfer of missile technology to rogue nations around the globe.

I decided to give our Nation's current policy one last chance to achieve the goal we all share: encouraging China to become a responsible member of the world community. However, I want to be clear that my patience is wearing thin with the actions of the Chinese regime. I hereby give notice that I will not vote for NTR again unless I see a fundamental shift in China's trade, proliferation, and human rights policies.

I believe that our country's policy of engagement has been the right one. And again, I feel that there are signs that progress has been made. However, we cannot wait forever while China continues to take one step forward followed by two steps back. We must constantly re-evaluate whether our NTR policy is indeed providing a catalyst for change, or whether it is merely providing cover for a bully. Unless clear improvements are seen, I will no longer be able to look favorably on most-favored-nation status for China.

#### A TRIBUTE TO TONY GYWN

**HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution to congratulate and commend my constituent from Poway, California: Tony Gwynn of the San Diego Padres, for his achievements on and off the field.

Mr. Speaker, on August 6, 1999, Tony Gwynn hit the 3,000th base hit of his career. As many baseball fans know, this was not an easy accomplishment. In the history of Major League Baseball, only 22 other ball-players have hit 3,000 or more base hits. This achievement places Tony Gwynn in the pantheon of baseball legends including: Roberto Clemente, Lou Brock, and Hank Aaron.

In 18 seasons, all with the San Diego Padres, Tony Gwynn has been the master of putting the ball into play. In the Padres' 1998 National League Championship season, Tony had almost as many home runs as strikeouts, and struck out looking only three times. His hands are lightning-quick and he's able to wait until the last millisecond before connecting with the ball wherever it is pitched. He goes after the first good pitch he sees and almost always hits it, so he rarely walks. And Tony is renowned for his ability to hit balls through the left side of the infield.

Tony has batted over .300 in 17 of those seasons and in the strike-shortened season of 1994, batted an amazing .394. His career batting average is an astounding .338.

Furthermore, off the baseball diamond, Tony has been a tremendous asset to the San Diego community. Tony, along with his wife Alicia, have given their time and effort in philanthropic efforts. He doesn't like to talk about his community efforts, but the Gwynn's are involved in more than two dozen organizations—San Diego Police Athletic Leagues, Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, Padres Scholars, the Casa de Amparo, Neighborhood House, the Jackie Robinson Family YMCA to name a few—that benefit from his time, attention and money.

In 1998, Tony led all Padres players in community appearances and joined seven-time American League batting champion Rod Carew for a historic youth batting clinic in Culiacin, Mexico, in March 1998. In addition, Tony was named the Individual of the Year at the 1998 Equal Opportunity Awards Dinner. He also was the 1995 Branch Rickey Award winner, and 1998 Padres Nominee for Major League Baseball's Roberto Clemente Man of the Year Award.

These days kids, children often must pay to get a professional athletes' autograph, picture, or signed memorabilia. Tony Gwynn has no part of this. Tony stays late at events to sign autographs; he's nice to young people; he's nice to everybody. I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring this tremendous individual for his multitude of accomplishments.

Also, I want to thank my former staff members, Jeannette Shields and Chris Hayes for their work in drafting this resolution.

**HELP FOR THE UNINSURED: THE LESSONS FROM NEW JERSEY: WHY H.R. 2185 SHOULD BE ENACTED**

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the July/August 1999 issue of Health Affairs contained an interesting article entitled, "Hidden Assets: Health Insurance Reform in New Jersey," by Harvard professor, Katherine Swartz, and Brandeis professor, Deborah Garnick.

The information in the article strongly supports passage of H.R. 2185—a bill which gives people a refundable tax credit to buy individual health insurance through a community-rated, guaranteed-issue insurance pool.

The article describes how, because of the collapse of the major individual insurer in New Jersey in 1993, the State came up with an Individual Health Coverage Program (IHCP). The key reforms of the IHCP are described below. The article concludes with the observation that the reforms themselves have not done much to help reduce the number of uninsured, because the cost of insurance is still too high for the working poor who constitute the bulk of the uninsured. But, says the article, if the New Jersey reforms were accompanied by a refundable tax credit system, it could make a major difference.

What they are describing, Mr. Speaker, is H.R. 2185.

**OVERVIEW OF THE REFORMS**

The IHCP reforms forced changes in five areas. (1) To broaden the size of the potential market, insurers are sharply limited in their

ability to choose whom they will insure. The regulations, require guaranteed issue and renewal of policies, portability of coverage across carriers, and limited to preexisting condition exclusions. (2) To encourage indemnity insurance companies and managed care organizations (hereafter collectively referred to as carriers) to enter the market, all carriers selling health insurance in New Jersey must either offer policies in the individual market or share in the losses of carriers that do sell policies and incur losses. (3) To give consumers more leverage in the market, carriers in the market may only sell up to six types of policies with standardized benefit packages, a standardization that facilitates comparisons by consumers.

(4) To extend access to higher-risk persons, the state required carriers to use pure community rating in setting premiums for the standardized policies; age-rating bands or variations in premiums based on where a person resides in the state are not permitted. In setting premiums, carriers also are required to meet a minimum loss ratio, so that at least 75 percent of premiums are used for provision of services. However, carriers do not have to seek approval from a state agency for any changes in premiums that they might want to implement, which we discuss in more detail below. (5) To implement the IHCP and monitor industry compliance with the regulations, the authorizing legislation called for oversight by a board, which runs the program independently of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance. Four of the nine board members are representatives of carriers and elected by the companies.

New Jersey's reforms are remarkable, particularly today, when states are assumed to have little power to bargain with corporations. In recent years mutual fund firms, automobile factories, professional baseball teams, and many other corporations have extracted large government concessions by threatening to move elsewhere. Yet New Jersey imposed major regulations and risk sharing on health insurers, with major carriers taking a leadership role in the process.

Additional efforts are needed to increase coverage. Even a well-functioning individual health insurance market has limits on what it can accomplish. The IHCP did not dramatically raise the number of New Jersey residents with individual coverage. Surely one reason more people have not purchased policies is that the premiums are not affordable for those with low incomes. The various congressional proposals to provide tax deductions or credits might induce some people to purchase individual policies who otherwise would not, but for people with low incomes, other efforts will be needed. The federal Earned Income Tax Credit offers a model of how the federal government could issue a tax credit that provides money during the year for the purchase of insurance. Such an "earned insurance tax credit" also would help to bring in younger workers, who typically earn low salaries, and thereby increase the proportion of healthy persons in each carrier's individual plans.

Similarly, if the tax code were revised and incentives for employer-sponsored coverage were replaced by tax credits for individuals purchasing insurance, large numbers of people would enter the individual markets. The result would be a sharp increase in the proportion of healthy persons in the individual markets. Either of these tax-induced increases in the proportion of healthy persons with individual coverage would lower the expected expenditures per insured person. Competition among carriers in this expanded market then would increase, keeping premiums close to costs.

New Jersey's IHCP is a model for other states wishing to increase access to health

insurance via market-oriented solutions that do not involve increased government financial obligations. States have assets they can trade upon to force competition in an expanded individual insurance market—a factor that should be of greater importance in states' strategies for increasing access to health insurance.

**IN HONOR OF SAINT EDWARD HIGH SCHOOL**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the faculty, staff, and students, past and present, of Saint Edward High School as they celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the school's founding.

The story of Saint Edward High School is one of community. Three Brothers of the Holy Cross opened the new school in 1949 with a mission of providing outstanding Catholic education to the young men of Cleveland's West Side. The Brothers of the Holy Cross recognize community as an invaluable resource to the individual, one from which valuable lessons of self and God are drawn. The school that they built would reflect this awareness of the human family's interconnectedness.

The story of Saint Edward High School is one of tradition. The school's tradition is one of excellence based in common values arrived at through honest contemplation. Saint Edward men confront the same questions that every human being with an honest thirst for justice and peace must confront. That they arrive at similar conclusions lends only more credence to the school's core of beliefs. The values have stood the test of time and so has Saint Edward High School. Saint Edward men are not committed to doing justice because that is their reputation. Saint Edward men are committed to doing justice because, by virtue of an honest, open, and on-going investigation into how life is to be lived, the way of love seems the only rational approach.

The story of Saint Edward High School is one of family. Saint Edward students tend to beget Saint Edward students, generation after generation of families growing up amongst the same faculty, the same staff—a growing community that never forgets what it is, what it was, and the values that have allowed for its progress. It comes as little surprise, then, that a listing of the school's achievements sounds so much like what proud parents might say of their children—the school possessing a selfless enthusiasm for its student's achievements. Indeed, Saint Edward High School has much reason to be enthusiastic. St. Edward men's excellence in the classroom transfers on to the playing field. The St. Edward Wrestling, Basketball, and Baseball teams delivered Ohio High School State Championships in 1998. Whether it be debate or band, Latin or chess, St. Edward students consistently prove to be the best amongst their peers.

My fellow colleagues, I ask you to join me in wishing the best to the community of St. Edward High School as it celebrates the school's first fifty years in existence.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR EDWARD  
QUAGLIA

**HON. DAVID D. PHELPS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mayor Edward Quaglia of Herrin, Illinois. Mayor Quaglia served the people and city of Herrin faithfully for more than 20 years; seven of those years as an alderman on the City Council, and for 15 years as mayor. This year, on May 31, Mayor Quaglia retired as Mayor due to health concerns. In honor of his retirement, the City of Herrin, the City Council of Herrin, Mayor Victor Ritter, and City Clerk Marlene Simpson have proclaimed July 18, 1999 as "Mayor Edward Quaglia Day."

Mr. Speaker, Mayor Quaglia will be long remembered by the good people of the City of Herrin, southern Illinois, and the entire State for his determined dedication to making Herrin a better place to live and to raise a family. Mayor Quaglia will not only be remembered for his numerous achievements including improving the city's infrastructure, and his hard work on development and construction of the Civic Center, the Annual Mayor's Community-wide Thanksgiving Dinner, the High School Sport's Complex, and planning the city's premier annual event, Herrinfesta Italiana, but most importantly for his compassionate and straightforward leadership style. He always gave all he had for a good cause and put the welfare of the citizens and City of Herrin first. When speaking of Mayor Quaglia, it is impossible not to mention his family, which is so important to him. His wife, JoAnne, has always stood by his side and been the light of his life. He has five loving children and four beautiful grandchildren.

I know that Mayor Quaglia will be sorely missed by all of Herrin in his retirement. But it is a retirement well earned, and one that I am sure that Edward Quaglia and his family and friends will enjoy with him to the fullest. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my fellow Members to share in my wish to extend Mayor Quaglia a long, healthy, and happy retirement along with God's Speed.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,  
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDI-  
CIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. RICK BOUCHER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2670) making appropriations for the Department of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Chairman, the Federal Communications Commission has an accounting requirement that is no longer needed for any purpose, which costs companies subject to the requirement at least \$270 million annually. That money could and should be used

not for the compilation of useless accounting statements, but for the promotion of universal service and other consumer benefits, such as lower prices, better services, an investment in advanced technologies and investment in out-of-region facilities with which to offer competitive telecommunications services.

The old accounting requirement was for the purpose of giving the Commission the information it needed for oversight of the rate-of-return regulation that was employed for all companies prior to 1991.

But in 1991, the large companies became subject to price caps and were no longer subject to rate-of-return regulation. The accounting requirement as to these price-cap companies no longer has any purpose, and the Tausin-Dingell amendment would assure that it no longer applies.

The monies spent on these needless accounting reports can then be put to more productive purposes. I strongly urge the approval of the Tausin-Dingell amendment.

TRIBUTE TO MANUEL (MANNY)  
MÉNDEZ

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Manuel (Manny) Méndez, an outstanding individual who has devoted his life to his family and to serving the community. Mr. Méndez who left Phipps Community Development Corporation on Wednesday, August 4, 1999 after 10 brilliant years his post as executive director/chief executor officer.

Mr. Méndez is a community builder to creating and sustaining enduring communities. He is the principal administrator of the Phipps Community Development Corporation which is an affiliate corporation of Phipps Houses, New York's oldest and largest nonprofit developer/owner of housing for low and moderate income families. Founded in 1905 Phipps Houses provides secure and well-designed housing for the working poor and other needy families.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Méndez's primary focus is on the management, design, implementation and community development of seven residential communities throughout New York City, providing homes to 14,000 individuals. The communities are West Farms and Crotona Park West in the South Bronx, Bellevue South in Manhattan and Sunnyside in Queens.

Manny believes that shelter is not enough. Hence, Phipps CDC—a Human Services/Educational/Employment Training Corporation—is committed to the development of the human spirit. Through a variety of program offerings in the fields of education, human services, employment readiness and community development, the Corporation under his leadership has assisted thousands of families. In early 1992 Mr. Méndez initiated efforts to provide Phipps residents and community members with regular and preventive medical care necessary for long term health and well being. Additionally this effort would help in ending the need for community members to use hospital emergency rooms as their primary care physicians in two South Bronx neighborhoods. In June of 1993, in a joint effort with the Bronx

Lebanon Hospital Center, the first family-based practice clinic was opened in Crotona Park West. In 1994, in concert with Montefiore Hospital, a second family-based practice was opened in West Farms.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions and accomplishments of Mr. Méndez in the field of human services, social policy and community development have been widely cited in the New York Times, New York Magazine, the Amsterdam News, the Washington Post as well as many other publications.

Before joining Phipps, Mr. Méndez held several senior executive level positions at the New York City Human Resources Administration, among them as Deputy Commissioner from 1988 to 1990. Mr. Méndez was responsible for the shelter of 12,000 homeless men and women, 4,000 prospective service for adults cases and 168 senior citizen centers. In 1995 he was appointed to a four-year term as commissioner of the New York City Equal Employment Practices Commission. He had served as special advisor to President Carter on the Atlanta Project and to the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops in Washington, D.C. and was an assistant professor at the Fordham University Graduate School of Social Services. He is a sponsor of the One Hundred Black Men's Youth Leadership Program and former president of the Puerto Rican Family Institute, a National Mental Health Organization. Mr. Méndez is presently a trustee and serves on the Executive Committee as assistant treasurer of Bronx Lebanon Hospital, a board member of the Association of Hispanic Arts, chairman of the New York City Human Resources Administration Advisory Board and a trustee of the Primary Care Development Corporation.

Mr. Méndez is a graduate of City College of New York and the Fordham University Graduate School of Social Services. He is a native of the Bronx, he and his wife, Joan, presently reside in the upper Westside of Manhattan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing best of luck to Mr. Manuel (Manny) A. Méndez in his new endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL WILLIAM F.  
HINES

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, Colonel Bill Hines is an outstanding example of the role models who lead Civil Air Patrol Wings. He has devoted a lifetime to quality aviation professionalism and service to his nation, particularly through Civil Air Patrol.

In 1952, Colonel Hines joined the Civil Air Patrol as a cadet in San Antonio, Texas. Two years later he completed his flight training. He was only 17 years old but he had already chosen his course in life. His family moved to Ohio and he received both his private and commercial pilot licenses. He earned his instrument rating and flight instructor rating while attending classes at Ohio State University. He taught flying at the University for two years. He then moved onto Purdue University where he continued in flight instruction. He also earned several degrees while at Purdue.

After working for the Indiana Aeronautics Commission and as an Emergency Services



officer for the Indian Wing of the Civil Air Patrol he began a career as a commercial pilot. He worked with Frontier Airlines from 1964 until the company shut down in 1986. While with Frontier, he served as Central Air Safety Chairman for fifteen years. In 1986 he moved to Continental Airlines. Colonel Hines flew with the Continental for eleven years until his retirement in 1997. He continues to teach ground school and safety courses for Continental.

He finally settled down into the Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol where he has concentrated on flight operations and aircrew evaluation and standardization. He also served several years as the Vice Commander and has, for the last four years, served as Wing Commander for the entire State of Colorado. Colonel Hines is in charge of the search and rescue division of CAP for Colorado. He has actively participated in many difficult searches. Colonel Hines was essential for providing the leadership in the search for the Air Force A-10 which crashed near Eagle, Colorado. He led the massive effort, which involved many days and missions. Colonel Hines was instrumental in the planning and execution of the safe high-altitude mission in marginal weather conditions.

Through his selfless volunteer leadership, Colonel Hines has distinguished himself as a great man. He has also brought distinction to the Colorado Wing, the Rocky Mountain Region, the Civil Air Patrol, and through all of these organizations, the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF JERSEY CITY'S ECUADORIAN FLAG RAISING CEREMONY COMMEMORATING ECUADOR'S INDEPENDENCE AND OF THIS YEAR'S HONOREES, INCLUDING MR. NAPOLEON BARRAGAN, MR. HECTOR DELGADO, AND MR. ANGELO DEL MONACO

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the honorees of this year's Ecuadorian Flag Raising Ceremony to commemorate Ecuador's independence celebration for their tremendous contributions to the State of New Jersey.

On August 10, 1999, the Ecuadorian Flag Raising Ceremony will observe Ecuador's independence by honoring an array of civic leaders and community activists from Jersey City, New Jersey. The Ceremony creates a forum which highlights efforts in promoting not only Ecuadorian cultural pride but also for the important and difficult task of providing role models for our children and young people.

This year's honorees are:

ECUADOREANS FOR JERSEY CITY: George Barreto, Washington Davida, Sergio Mendez, Denis Tapia, Rosa Tapia, Lourdes Porras, Santiago Cavagnaro, Blanca Barzola, Frank Molina, Armando Molina, and Sara Velazquez.

ECUADORIAN CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS: La Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana, Comité Civico Ecuatoriano, Sociedad Tungurahense de New Jersey, A.S.O.P.R.E.X., and Cultuarte.

ECUADORIAN NEWSPAPERS: Ecuador News, Campana News, El Expreso, and Latinos.

In addition, special tributes and presentations are set to be awarded to Mr. Napoleon Barragan, founder of 1-800-MAT-TRES, Mr. Hector Delgado, founder and proprietor of Delgado Travel, and Mr. Angelo del Monaco, the five-time world record holding Ecuadorian cyclist, for their outstanding achievements and unquestionable leadership.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all of the recipients honored by the Ecuadorian Flag Raising Ceremony for all of their accomplishments. Their tremendous contributions have truly strengthened the City of Jersey City, and, I wish them all continued luck and success in community service.

ANTI-GAY BIGOTRY AGAINST ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE STEVE MAY

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, at a time when the leaders of this country should rise up and speak out in favor of the family and commitment, it is a disgrace to our common sense that our nation and in particular our Department of Defense, continues to persecute gay Americans who espouse these values.

Though millions of law-abiding, tax-paying gay Americans honor the tradition of family by honoring their unions to each other, they consistently see their efforts rewarded by a rhetoric that is seemingly aligned with their commitment to these values and yet is used as a tool to alienate them from this society and deny them their most basic rights.

Recently, Arizona State Representative Steve May added a heroic voice to those calling for full civil rights for gay Americans by refusing to accept the bigotry and prejudice inherent in the movement to strip away domestic partner benefits for gay couples. During debate in the Arizona State House of Representatives on legislation barring Arizona counties from offering domestic partner benefits, Mr. May bravely spoke out against the legislation and told his fellow legislators that he was gay and that he would not tolerate discrimination against gay families.

Representative May is a member of the Army Reserve and a former active duty soldier. After acknowledging in the debate that he loves and shares his life with another man, the Army has initiated an effort to remove him from the military.

Mr. Speaker, what hypocrisy! At a time when our nation's military is being forced to lower its standards in order to maintain force levels, we are expelling from the military highly talented and experienced individuals who want to serve our nation.

Mr. Speaker, the New York Times last Sunday (September 5, 1999) published an Editorial Observer column by Brent Staples which eloquently places the experience of Steve May in a suitable context and appropriately denounces the injustice of attacks on gay women and men in this country. I urge my colleagues to read this excellent piece and to join me in ending the injustice of protecting some families while harming others.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the column by Brent Staples commending Steve May and his stance on domestic partner benefits in The New York Times to be placed in the RECORD.

[From the New York Times, Sept. 5, 1999]  
WHY SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IS THE CRUCIAL ISSUE

(By Brent Staples)

The civil rights movement had made spectacular gains in the courts—including Brown v. Board of Education—before Rosa Parks galvanized public opinion in a way that lawsuits had not. Ms. Parks became an emblematic figure when she was arrested in Montgomery, Ala., for refusing to sit in the “colored only” section of a bus. The sight of this dignified woman being denied the simplest courtesy because she was black crystallized the dehumanizing nature of segregation and rallied people against it.

Racism began to wane as white Americans were introduced to members of the black minority whom they could identify as “just like us.” A similar introduction is underway for gay Americans, but the realization that they are “just like us” has yet to sink in. When it finally does, the important transitional figures will include State Representative Steve May, a 27-year-old Republican from Arizona.

Mr. May is a solid conservative who supports issues like vouchers and charter schools. He was raised a Mormon and recalls himself as the kid who “had to go out and bring in the wayward souls.” He is also a former active-duty soldier and an Army reservist, whose record shows that he could have moved up swiftly and been given a command.

But Mr. May is about to be hounded out of the Reserve for publicly admitting he loves and shares his life with another man. This acknowledgment came last winter during a heated exchange in the Arizona Legislature over a bill that would have barred counties from offering domestic-partner benefits, stripping them from gay couples who currently enjoy them.

Mr. May could have sat quietly, protecting his career. Instead he exposed the provision as bigoted and told the Arizona House: “It is an attack on my family, an attack on my freedom. . . . My gay tax dollars are the same as your straight tax dollars. If you are not going to treat me fairly, stop taking my tax dollars. . . . I’m not asking for the right to marry, but I’d like to ask this Legislature to leave my family alone.”

When Rosa Parks declined to yield her seat on that bus, she was telling Alabama that she was not just a colored person, but a human being who deserved the respect and protection of the law. Mr. May’s words in the Arizona House were similarly clarifying. Fearful of a backlash, gay politicians rarely mention their mates in public—and shy away from speaking of them in terms that might disturb even constituents who know that they are gay. But by framing his argument in the context of “the family,” Mr. May disarmed his bigoted colleagues and took the debate on same-sex unions exactly where it needed to go.

When Mr. May’s comments became public, the Army Reserve began an investigation that legal experts say will certainly end in discharge. Lieutenant May will then become a casualty of “don’t ask, don’t tell,” which ended more than 1,100 military careers in 1998, on the grounds that homosexuals who reveal the fact are no longer fit to serve.

This is a staggering loss at a time when the armed services are canvassing strip malls and lowering entrance requirements to find personnel. By the time this policy is abandoned, thousands of talented Americans



will have been lost to a purge that will come to be recognized as contrary to the public good and morally wrong.

Republicans began the 1990's refusing campaign contributions from gay organizations and demonizing homosexuals for political gain. But in the race for 2000, the most prominent candidates are accepting the money and say that they would hire gay workers as long as they refrained from pressing "a gay agenda"—a code phrase for keeping quiet about issues of same-sex intimacy, up to and including marriage. The trouble with this approach is that legitimacy for same-sex unions is the heart of the matter. By denying that legitimacy, we declare gay

love less valid than heterosexual love and gay people less human. We cut them off from the rituals of family and marriage that bind us together as a culture.

The legislator who wished to revoke benefits from same-sex partners in Arizona viewed those partnerships as culturally alien and morally illegitimate. The military establishment may force Mr. May out of the service—despite an exemplary record—because his family consists of two men who are indistinguishable from their neighbors, except that they sleep together.

This persecution finds a parallel in statutes that made it illegal for blacks and whites to get married up until 1967, when the

Supreme Court declared the laws unconstitutional. The laws were based on the primitive belief that blacks and whites were set apart on the tree of life by God Himself. Interracial couples were initially seen as a threat to the social order and to the institution of marriage. Over time, the culture began to discard the filter of race, viewing the couples as "just like the rest of us." The same process will probably work out for same-sex couples—but only after an extended battle. When the matter is settled, historians will look back at people like Steve May, who declined to go quietly to the back of the American bus.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 9, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## SEPTEMBER 13

10 a.m.  
Joint Economic Committee  
To hold hearings on certain tax cut provisions and budget surplus issues.  
SD-124

## SEPTEMBER 14

Time to be announced  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Energy Research, Development, Production and Regulation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on S.1051, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to manage the Strategic Petroleum Reserve more effectively. (Subcommittee hearing will immediately follow the 9:30 full committee hearing).  
SD-366

9:30 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings on S.1052, to implement further the Act (Public Law 94-241) approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America.  
SD-366

Appropriations  
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed fiscal year 2000 youth violence initiative.  
SD-192

Armed Services  
To hold hearings on issues concerning the sinking of the USS Indianapolis.  
SH-216

10 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings on issues relating to hate on the internet.  
SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings on issues relating to educational readiness.  
SD-430

2 p.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings on pending nominations.  
SD-226

2:30 p.m.  
Aging  
To hold hearings on the benefits of exercise for the elderly.  
SH-216

## SEPTEMBER 15

10 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings on the nomination of David J. Hayes, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior; the nomination of Sylvia V. Baca, of New Mexico, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior; and the nomination of Ivan Itkin, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Department of Energy.  
SD-366

Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings on the nomination of Sally Katzen, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.  
SD-628

Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine certain clemency issues for members of the Armed Forces of National Liberation.  
SD-226

2 p.m.  
Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.  
SH-219

Judiciary  
Immigration Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on Immigration and Naturalization Service reform issues.  
SD-226

## SEPTEMBER 16

9:30 a.m.  
Governmental Affairs  
Investigations Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on the practices and operations of the securities day trading industry.  
SD-628

10 a.m.  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Public Health Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine issues relating to children's health.  
SD-430

2 p.m.  
Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.  
SH-219

2:30 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on the Administration's Northwest Forest Plan.  
SD-366

## SEPTEMBER 21

9 a.m.  
United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control  
To hold hearings on counterinsurgency vs. counter-narcotics issues in regards to Colombia.  
SH-216

## SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.  
Veterans' Affairs  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.  
345 Cannon Building

## SEPTEMBER 30

2:30 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on S.1457, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to assess opportunities to increase carbon storage on national forests derived from the public domain and to facilitate voluntary and accurate reporting of forest projects that reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations.  
SD-366